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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/500,641	07/01/2004	Bernd Geelhaar	3022	2861

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EXAMINER

CHANG, YEAN HSI

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2835

DATE MAILED: 04/12/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/500,641

Applicant(s)

GEELHAAR ET AL.

Examiner

Yean-Hsi Chang

Art Unit

2835

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01 July 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13 and 16-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,4-13,16 and 18-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 3 and 17 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 01 July 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 7/1/04.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

1. Claim 18 is objected to because of the following informalities: The number of the claim from which claim 18 depends is not indicated. Claim 7 is assumed in the following rejections. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1-2, 4-8, 10 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Nagai (US 5,832,082).

Nagai teaches an electrical device (10, fig. 1) for attachment to a holder (20) in a vehicle (see col. 3, lines 3-5), wherein the electrical device is attached to the holder in a first connection by means of at least one hook (11, 23) wherein the electrical device can pivot in relation to the holder because the at least one hook can pivot in relation to the holder, and wherein the electrical device can be locked to the holder in a second connection (15, 25) (claims 1 and 19); wherein the at least one hook is provided on the

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electrical device (fig. 1) and that a receptacle (23) for the at least one hook is embodied on the holder (fig. 1) (claim 2); wherein a top (lower surface of 10 in fig. 1) of the electrical device can be attached to an underside (upper surface of 20 in fig. 1) of the holder (claim 4); wherein the electrical device can be locked to the holder by means of a pivoting catch (25c) which engages an edge of the holder (see fig. 4) (claims 5-6); wherein the pivoting catch is disposed on a pivoting ratchet (25c, figs. 4) (claim 7); wherein the electrical device is provided with a detent mechanism (15) that automatically engages with the holder in detent fashion when the electrical device is pivoted against the holder (see fig. 4B) (claim 8); and wherein the electrical device has at least one housing (see fig. 1) and an electrical component (inherent feature not shown), that the electrical component is fastened inside the housing, and that the at least one hook is provided on the housing (see fig. 1) (claim 10).

4. Claims 1, 7, 16 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Tolerson (US 4,180,299).

Tolerson teaches an electrical device (20, fig. 6) for attachment to a holder (26) in a vehicle (52), wherein the electrical device is attached to the holder in a first connection by means of at least one hook (65) wherein the electrical device can pivot in relation to the holder because the at least one hook can pivot in relation to the holder, and wherein the electrical device can be locked to the holder in a second connection (36,68) (claim 1); wherein the pivoting catch is disposed on a pivoting ratchet (36) (claim 7); wherein the pivoting catch is pivotably provided on the electrical device (see figs. 1

and 6) (claim 16); and wherein the holder is mounted to the underside of a vehicle roof, a luggage rack, a ventilation conduit (see fig. 3) (claim 20).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 9 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nagai in view of Hotsumi (US 4,627,589).

Nagai discloses the claimed invention except the locking of the electrical device to the holder being secured by means of a lock.

Hotsumi teaches an electrical device (30, fig. 3) secured to a holder (40) by means of a lock (60) for purpose of security.

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the device of Nagai with the lock taught by Hotsumi for purpose of security.

7. Claim 11 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nagai.

Nagai discloses the claimed invention except indicating the housing of the electrical device is at least partially covered with a protective layer made of a plastic

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material. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the holder of Nagai with plastic material, since it has been held to be within the general skill of a worker in the art to select a known material on the basis of its suitability for the intended use for the purpose of lighter weight and such that the housing of the electrical device is at least partially covered with a protective layer made of a plastic material when installed. *In re Leshin*, 125 USPQ 416 (CCPA 1960).

8. Claims 12 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nagai in view of Deeds et al. (US 6,810,238 B1).

Nagai discloses the claimed invention except a plug connection being provided on a side of the electrical device oriented toward the holder, and the electrical device having at least one display unit.

Deeds teaches an electronic device (103, fig. 1A) having a plug connection (381) on a side toward the holder (300) and at least one display (fig. 1A).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the device of Nagai with the plug connection and the display taught by Deeds for necessary power connection and a video display capability.

Allowable Subject Matter

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9. Claims 3 and 17 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

10. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: The best prior art of record, Nagai (US 5,832,082), Tolerson (US 4,180,299), Hotsumi (US 4,627,589), and Deeds et al. (US 6,810,238 B1), taken alone or in combination, fails to teach or fairly suggest an electrical device for attachment a holder in a vehicle, comprising at least, in addition to other limitations: a connection to the holder by means of at least one hook having a hole thereon for accommodating a pin provided on a receptacle being embodied on the holder as set forth in claim 3; and wherein the electrical device has at least one display unit which is a CRT display as set forth in claim 17.

Correspondence

11. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Yean-Hsi Chang whose telephone number is (571) 272-2038. The examiner can normally be reached on 07:30 - 16:00, Monday through Thursday.


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Art Unit phone number is (571) 272-2800, ext. 35. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300. Information regarding

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the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-8558.

Yean-Hsi Chang
Primary Examiner
Art Unit: 2835
April 10, 2006



YEAN-HSI CHANG
PRIMARY EXAMINER